

REMARKS

Applicant gratefully acknowledges Examiner Alam for courtesies extended during a telephone interview conducted on June 19, 2009, wherein Examiner Alam indicated that he would be willing to reconsider allowability of the claimed invention, if the functionalities of the blocks were clarified in the claims in accordance with Applicant's latest arguments. Applicant believes that the above claim amendments provide this additional clarification, although it is again pointed out that the structure described in the independent claims has clearly not been demonstrated in the references currently of record.

Claims 1, 7, 8, and 15-20 are all the claims presently pending in this application. All other claims have been canceled in reliance upon the Examiner's previous indication of allowable subject matter.

It is noted that the amendments, if any, are made only to more particularly define the invention and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, for narrowing the scope of the claims, or for any reason related to a statutory requirement for patentability. It is further noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

The two exemplary embodiments discussed in the disclosure demonstrate different configurations in which the application functions include at least one function interrelated with the communication block, such that the application function will automatically attempt to have the communication block make contact with a base station.

The present invention includes a second switch so that the applications functions can be fully isolated from the communication block, so that the mobile terminal can be used in areas that there is no usable base station (e.g., during trips) but the user wishes to continue to use one or more applications. The present invention permits the mobile terminal to be used in such areas without causing excessive power drain due to one or more application function attempting to automatically establish contact with a base station.

Thus, the reason that the switching configuration of the claimed invention is significant in the present invention, compared to the configurations taught in Shah and Ono, is that the present invention provides two exemplary embodiments having application functions in which at least one application function is related to the communication function, such that the related application function will cause the device to expend large amounts of power by continuously attempting to communicate with a base station. One example is

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described at lines 16-18 of page 1, wherein is described the call waiting function that operates while other applications other than the communication function is used.

The claimed invention permits these related application functions to be fully disconnected from the communication function, thereby precluding the application functions from attempting to interact with the communication function. In one exemplary embodiment, the applications functions are located outside the base band block, as described in independent claim 1, and in another exemplary embodiment described by independent claim 15, the application functions are incorporated into the base band block.

Thus, in both exemplary embodiments, the claimed invention describes a second switch used to selectively disconnect the application functions from the communication block. As discussed above, this description is entirely different from the connection/disconnection in secondary reference Ono of the display and audio to be either to its processor for telephone functions or to its processor for application functions, as shown in Figures 2 and 3 of Ono. That is, the switching means 1021, 1025 of Figures 2 and 3 of Ono merely connect the main display unit 103 and the audio function part 106 to be connected to either its telephone control part 1022, 1026 or its applications processor 1023, 1027.

Moreover, Applicant submits that the rejection of record fails to provide a reasonable motivation to modify primary reference Shah by Ono, since the switching means 1021, 1025 shown in Figures 2 and 3 of Ono would serve no useful purpose in the configuration shown in primary reference Shah. That is, unlike secondary reference Ono, the configuration shown in primary reference Shah clearly shows an RF unit that already segregates the application functions from the RF unit 14, as confirmed by the description in paragraph [0015]: “*The computing unit 16 provides the local functionality of the device 10....*”

Therefore, in the configuration shown in Shah, when the power switch 12 disconnects power to the RF unit 14, there is clearly no need to provide audio or display to the unpowered RF unit 14. Moreover, there also would be no need to disconnect the audio/display when the RF unit 14 is powered down, since there would be no power to operate any audio/display devices that might be present in the RF unit 14 of Shah. Thus, secondary reference Ono demonstrates switching means 1021, 1025 that would serve no reasonably purpose in the configuration of Shah.

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to modify Shah to add the switching means 1021, 1025 of Ono, since such modification would have no practical benefit.

Moreover, as explained above, the switching means 1021, 1025 of Ono do not satisfy

the plain meaning of the claim language, since these switches do not connect the applications function processor to the telephone processor. Rather, these switches control whether the main display unit 103 and audio function part 106 are connected/disconnected to the telephone processor, a function not related to the claimed invention.

The analysis for dependent claims 7, 8, and 16-20 inherit the deficiencies identified above for the rejection of their respective independent claims, so that these claims are clearly also patentable over Shah.

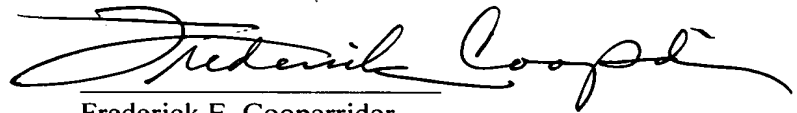
III. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1, 7, 8, and 15-20, all of the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

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